

7/31/2003

5th ROUND SALMON GRANT WORKING GROUPS



Overlooking the White River Valley and Wenatchee Lake

**A STATUS SUMMARY WITH ATTACHMENTS
OF DRAFT MATERIALS
FOR THE
ISSUES TASK FORCE (ITF)**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its November 14, 2002, meeting the SRFB directed staff to commence work on addressing anticipated 5th Round grant issues. Staff worked with WDFW to create scopes of work for the Strategies, Technical Panel, Recovery Regions, and Grant Cycle issues and met with representatives from DNR to examine preliminary issues surrounding Forest & Fish. Additionally, staff worked with a sub-committee of LEAG to clarify LEAG's proposed vision for the SRFB's funding process and the role of strategies.

In early December the proposed approach for working on 12 identified issues was sent to all Lead Entities, the Technical Panel, WDFW Stewards, and others. Names were solicited of local people having expertise and interest in serving on one or more of the 12 working groups. Fifty-six people volunteered to serve and the working groups met from February through June to complete the work contained in this status report.

No one signed up to work on the Small Grants issue and Bruce Crawford addressed the Effectiveness Monitoring effort in a separate venue. Also, the question of when the 5th Round grant cycle would commence was answered by the SRFB at its July 2 meeting. The next grant cycle will start in early January 2004.

Each Working Group was asked to prepare options for the Board's consideration in deciding the 5th and subsequent grant cycles. This 52-page report contains the results of the work performed by nine of the 12 Working Groups. This preliminary compilation of findings illustrates the need for key policy decisions. Of special note are those issues that arise from proposed changes in the definitions of Benefit and Certainty for individual project types and project eligibility. Also, some issues like those found in the Fish Passage section merit close attention since the recommendations provide the Board with new and innovative opportunities. Listed below are the nine Working Groups and hi-lights of their work. Underlined text represents proposed changes in wording.

Forest & Fish:

- SSHB 1095 passed & signed into law April 2003
- DNR, WDFW, & IAC working to develop new small landowner (SFL) fish passage program. Emergency rules to be adopted by the Forest Practices Board on August 13
- Public meetings to be held on Sep. 24-25, 2003
- Final program design to be presented to SRFB on Sep. 25-26, 2003
- Final rules adopted by FPB on Oct. 31, 2003
- *ITF: Briefing information only at this point*

Acquisitions:

- New criteria proposed for rating benefit and certainty, e.g. For benefit; High = > 60% intact habitat; Medium = 40-60% intact; Low = < 40% intact
- Specific evaluation criteria for combination projects
- Reach level acquisitions okay, but with qualifiers
- Unique circumstances of project should be included
- Adequacy of existing land use regulations must be described in the application
- *ITF: Decisions needed on new criteria*

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Assessments:

- Two options developed for eligibility
 - No changes from 4th Round
 - Research, monitoring or general knowledge related assessments ineligible
- Two options for each for benefit and certainty
 - No changes from 4th Round
 - New criteria
- *ITF: Decisions needed on new criteria*

Nearshore:

- Options for bringing nearshore projects to SRFB
- Coordination w/ PSNERP
- Numerical evaluation criteria for benefit and certainty
- Knowledge matrix for project applicants
- *ITF: Decisions needed on new criteria*

Fish Passage:

- New recommendations covering:
 - Application forms/requirements
 - Eligibility (non-small forest landowners and Forest & Fish)
 - Project agreement
 - Match requirements
 - Evaluation criteria for benefit and certainty
 - Statewide Fish Passage Program
 - Technical Assistance
- *ITF: Decisions needed on all recommendations*

Benefit & Certainty (restoration):

- Two options developed for definitions
 - No change from 4th round
 - New criteria
- *ITF: Decisions needed on High benefit which states...ESA listed species or non-listed populations supported by natural spawning have a higher priority*

Regions/ Recovery Planning:

- Being addressed by GSRO and WDFW
- See the presentation by Teresa Scott on regional recovery planning presented at Lead Entity Workshop, May 15-16, 2003.
- *ITF: To be determined*

Strategy/Vision:

- See Jim Fox's July 22 memo to the ITF
- *ITF: Decisions needed*

Technical Panel:

- More time desired of the Panel to visit and assist with proposed projects
- Evaluation of projects vs. evaluation of strategies
- *ITF: Decisions needed*